

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) Sealing band—(9) for a projectile—(1), the band being characterised in that it comprises a front sub-band—(11) containing at least two sectors, the sub-band having at least a conical profile—(13a, 13b) in a tight fit with the matching profile—(14a, 14b) of a groove of the projectile, the cone tip being placed towards a rear section of the projectile, with the sub-band—(11) attached to the projectile by a cylindrical skirt—(12).

2. (Currently amended) Sealing band according to claim 1, characterised in that the skirt—(12) has on its internal surface means—(15) to allow its friction-type connection with the sub-band—(11).

3. (Currently amended) Sealing band according to claim 2, characterised in that the skirt—(12) has an internal circular collar—(35) for the sub-band—(11).

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4. (Currently amended) Sealing band according to ~~any of~~ ~~claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, characterised in that it has a layer ~~(20)~~ of a sealing material placed at the rear of the sub-band ~~(11)~~ or the internal collar ~~(35)~~ of the skirt ~~(12)~~.

5. (Currently amended) Sealing band according to ~~any of~~ ~~claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, characterised in that the skirt ~~(12)~~ has a length between 50% and 80% of the calibre.

6. (Currently amended) Sealing band according to ~~any of~~ ~~claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, characterised in that each sub-band ~~(11)~~ sector has at the level of each of its lateral edges at least one indentation ~~(16)~~ intended to cooperate with a corresponding indentation ~~(17)~~ of a neighbouring sector so as to form a sealing deflecting plate ~~(18)~~ for the propellant gases.

7. (Currently amended) Sealing band according to claim 6, characterised in that a flexible sealing material ~~(19)~~ is placed in the (deflecting) plates ~~(18)~~ and at the level of a rear section of the sub-band ~~(11)~~.

8. (Currently amended) Sealing band according to ~~any of~~ ~~claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, characterised in that the skirt ~~(12)~~ of the band ~~(9)~~ is over-calibre at the level of a rear section ~~(9b)~~.

9. (Currently amended) Sealing band according to ~~any of~~ ~~claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, characterised in that it is of sub-calibre at least at the level of a front section ~~(9a)~~.

10. (Currently amended) Arrow projectile ~~(1)~~ comprising a sub-calibre core ~~(4)~~ held by a sabot ~~(3)~~ with a calibre made of at least two segments, said projectile having a band ~~(9)~~ according to claim 9 and characterised in that the sabot ~~(3)~~ has a pusher plate ~~(PP)~~ located axially in front of the transversal plane ~~(PM)~~ passing through the gravity centre of the complete projectile, the pusher plate containing at least one groove for the sub-band ~~(11)~~ to fit in.

11. (Currently amended) Arrow projectile according to claim 10 and integrating a sealing band ~~according to claim 6,~~ characterised in that it comprises a front sub-band containing at least two sectors, the sub-band having at least a conical profile in a tight fit with the matching profile of a groove of the projectile, the cone tip being placed towards a rear section of the projectile, with the sub-band attached to the projectile by a cylindrical skirt wherein each sub-band sector has at the level of each of its lateral edges at least one indentation intended to cooperate with a corresponding indentation of a neighboring sector so as to form a sealing deflecting plate for the propellant gasses, and the deflecting plates ~~(18)~~ separating the various sub-band ~~(11)~~ sectors are alternatively integrated with the plan lines ~~(22)~~ separating the segments of the sabot ~~(3)~~.

12. (Currently amended) Arrow projectile according to ~~any of claims 10 to 11~~ claim 10, characterised in that each segment from the sabot ~~(3)~~ has a rear calibre guiding support ~~(30)~~.

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13. (Currently amended) Arrow projectile according to ~~any of claims 10 to 12~~ claim 10, characterised in that each segment of the sabot—(3) has a reinforcing rib—(33) extending longitudinally to the back of the pusher plate—(PP).

14. (Currently amended) Arrow projectile according to claim 13, characterised in that the rib—(33) is in contact with the skirt—(12) of the band—(9).

15. (Currently amended) Arrow projectile according to claim 14, characterised in that the skirt—(12) of the band is provided with longitudinal internal grooves—(34) in which the ribs—(33) are fitted in.

16. (Currently amended) Ammunition consisting of a casing—(2) enclosing a propellant charge and including a projectile according to ~~any of claims 10 to 15~~ claim 10, the ammunition characterised in that the skirt—(12) of the band is attached to a fastening ring—(6) fixed at the casing—(2).

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17. (Currently amended) Ammunition according to claim 16, characterised in that part of the propellant charge is placed in the skirt—(12) of the band.